Flash-n-Flush
A 90-SECOND READ · K12 CYBER FORWARD

STUDENT EDITION · GRADES 9-12
February · Issue 4

SHARED BY
Your school

AI IMAGE EDITION

Real or fake? Check before you share.

AI can make a photo, video or voice clip of a real person doing something they never did. Sharing a fake about a classmate or teacher can hurt someone fast, even if you thought it was a joke.

1

Pause on the 'no way' feeling

Shocking clips of classmates, teachers or celebrities are exactly what fakes are made for. Look for odd hands, warped text, mismatched shadows or lips out of sync, and ask who posted it first.

2

Don't be the next share

If it could be fake or humiliating, don't forward it, not even to 'just' your group chat. Every share makes it harder to take down and spreads the harm to a real person.

3

If it's about you, get help fast

If someone makes or shares a fake image of you, or threatens to share one unless you pay or send more, stop replying, screenshot everything and tell a trusted adult. You are not in trouble.

Spot the scam

@springvale_tea_daily Account created yesterday, 3 posts — Social media message

> BREAKING from an account made yesterday: video of Coach R. yelling and throwing a chair at practice. Source: anonymous. Yeah his voice doesn't quite match his mouth but whatever, it's still wild. Share before the school takes it down. Follow for more leaks from Springvale High every day this week.

Spot the fake: how many red flags can you find?

Red flags I found: ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯

Look for: surprise, urgency, secrecy, an unusual payment method, a sender or link you can't confirm.

FUN FACT

A 2025 federal law, the TAKE IT DOWN Act, covers AI-made fakes too. When a platform gets a valid request to remove intimate images shared without consent, it must take them down within 48 hours.

Source: FTC Business Blog: Take It Down Act enforcement starts now: What to know about the FTC and TIDA

Your 60-second move

Next time a post makes you think 'no way', wait 60 seconds and find out who posted it first before you share anything.

Who do I tell?

Name / ext. _____

Report channel _____

ANSWER

Five flags: a brand-new account, no real source, audio that doesn't match the mouth, pressure to share fast and follower bait. Smart move: don't share, comment or repost. Report the post on the platform and tell a teacher or counselor. A fake about a real person does real damage.

- A brand-new account has no track record to trust.
- 'Anonymous source' means no source at all.
- Audio that doesn't match lip movement is a common sign of an AI fake.
- 'Share before it's deleted' is pressure to spread it before anyone checks.
- 'Follow for more' shows the goal is attention, not truth.

Scan for a 2-minute lesson on when to bring in a trusted adult
Free, no sign-in · k12cyberforward.com/learn